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in a doubtful position. Among others, two specimens of *B. matricariaefolium*, which, on account of the unusually high position of the sterile frond, and their very acute segments, I had removed from my sheet and placed with *B. lanceolatum*, I have since been able to return to their proper place.

I have found on examining a great many specimens that in that wonderful species (*B. matricariaefolium*) the segments are often more acute than they are usually credited with being, and that the sterile frond is sometimes approximate to the fruit panicle as in *B. lanceolatum*, while in the latter species the sterile frond is at times placed far down upon the common stalk, so that it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, at times to distinguish them by their external characters alone: but their bud forms are invariably distinct.

Taking full grown specimens of *B. simplex* and *B. Lunaria* the general appearance of the sterile frond in each will sometimes be found to resemble the other so much, in the form of the segments, that it is difficult to understand why the apex should be bent over in one species and not in the other. Such, however, is the fact, and while it illustrates nature's methods in preserving her marks of distinction between species otherwise similarly related, and furnishes us with reliable characters by which to distinguish them under different conditions, it also proves very clearly, to my mind, the distinctive character of the different species of Botrychia.

BOSTON, Nov., 1877.

GEO. E. DAVENPORT.

NOTE.—The figures with which these notes are illustrated have been drawn by Mr. J. H. Emerton, directly from the buds furnished to him for that purpose by myself. Nos. 1 and 2 are of natural size; the proportions of the others have been enlarged to give more distinctness to the parts.

G. E. D.

§ 208. **Camptosorus rhizophyllus**, Link.—It is with pleasure that I inform you of the discovery of *Camptosorus rhizophyllus* in this vicinity, and within 14 miles of Boston. It was found growing on a rocky knoll near the banks of the Charles River, and, as it has never before been reported this side of Mt. Tom, in the western part of the State, its presence here will be received with rejoicing by the many lovers of ferns in this quarter.

WM. EDWARDS.

SOUTH NATICK, Dec. 17th, 1877.

§ 209. **Pringle's Plants**.—We recently, § 193, called attention to Mr. Chas. G. Pringle's sets of Alpine, Sub-alpine, and Northern plants of New England, which he offers for sale at ten cents a specimen, or, we believe, for exchange. We have, however, lately received such an endorsement of them from good judges, that we deem it for the interest of our readers to repeat the notice. One correspondent writes: "I received on Saturday a set, and never before knew what good specimens from that region looked like. The color is kept, the specimens are collected root and all, are furnished with very handsome labels, are liberally supplied, the exact date of collection both of flowers and fruit is given, and locality, and all species so requiring have both states represented." Address Mr. C. G. Pringle, Charlotte, Vt.